

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 305842
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 305842

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE ANDREOTTI VISIT TO NEW YORK

1. LOCAL CORRESPONDENT FOR LA NAZIONE (MODESTI) HAS
QUERIED DEPTOFFABOUT PLANS BY PRIME MINISTER ANDREOTTI
TO VISIT US IN FEBRUARY.DEPTOFF REPLIED HE WAS NOT AWARE
OF VISIT.

2. UPON CHECKING WITH ITALIAN EMBASSY, DEPT WAS PRI-
VATELY AND UNOFFICIALLY INFORMED THAT PRIME MINISTER
ANDREOTTI IS NOW CONSIDERING MAKING A "PRIVATE" VISIT TO
NEW YORK IN MID-FEBRUARY TO PARTICIPATE IN CELEBRATING
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY'S CASA
ITALIANA AND POSSIBLY TO ADDRESS COUNCIL ON FOREIGN
RELATIONS. ACCORDING TO EMBOFF, ANDREOTTI HAS NOT YET
MADE FIRM DECISION TO COME, AND IN ANY CASE DOES NOT
PLAN TO STOP IN WASHINGTON.

3. MODESTI CLAIMS HE HAS NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO PRINT
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STORY. IF HE LATER DECIDES TO PUBLISH IT HE WILL ADD
INTERPRETATION THAT FEBRUARY TRIP IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED
TO ELICIT WHITE HOUSE INVITATION IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN
ANDREOTTI'S PERSONAL POSITION BEFORE WIDELY EXPECTED
CABINET RESHUFFLE EARLY NEXT YEAR.

4. IF ASKED, DEPT PLANS TO RESPOND THAT WE HAVE NO

KNOWLEDGE THAT ANDREOTTI WILL BE VISITING THE US.
FYI: WE DO NOT WANT TO BUILD UP ITALIAN HOPES THAT AN
ANDREOTTI VISIT TO WASHINGTON EARLY IN 1978 WOULD BE
POSSIBLE. PRESIDENT'S CALENDAR IS OVERBOOKED, AND IT
WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO ADD SUCH A VISIT TO IT. END FYI
VANCE

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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